

# Limited, non-resident JACKALOPE LICENSE

*Original: This license is invalid if it is not issued and used in Converse County*

This license authorizes \_\_\_\_\_ (licensee) of \_\_\_\_\_ to hunt, pursue, trap or otherwise take one (1) pronghorn jackalope within the lawful boundaries of Converse County, Wyoming on June 31<sup>st</sup> between sunrise and sunset only. Failure to have this license approved and issued by a resident of Converse County, Wyoming, or to otherwise comply with the terms hereof, may, on conviction thereof, result in a fine of \$13 and/or a sentence of 13 months hard play in Douglas, Wyoming.

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, do hereby state: That I am a person of strict temperance and absolute trustfulness. I do reserve the right, at my discretion and if interrogated concerning my hunting experience, to employ such lingual evasion, loud rebuttal and double talk as the occasion and circumstances require.

*Adam Lyre*

Adam Lyre, Chief Licensor

HELGA BULL

Resident of Converse County



# *History*

Paleontologists have been unable to precisely designate the prehistoric origins of the jackalope (Pedigres Leapusalopus). Much like humans, there appears to be a missing link in their evolution. Many have ascribed to the recent evolutionary leap simply to a cross between the jack rabbit and a variety of other animals, normally antelope or small deer.

When the song "Home on the Range" was written, it contained the phrase... "Where the deer and the antelope play with the jackrabbit..." However, this offended genteel ladies of that era and the song was shortened. Thus the apparent origin of the jackalope was forever lost from Western folklore.

The first recorded sighting of a jackalope was by Roy Ball, an occasionally sober trapper, who staggered into the Wyoming Territory around 1829. The existence of the jackalope was known prior to that only through Native American legend. Mr. Ball was the first to record that jackalopes mated during flashes of lightning common to violent thunderstorms of the prairies. This, however, is yet to be confirmed by modern zoologists.

During the 1800s, Wyoming abounded with many animals which are now extinct. Among them were the buffalo, the grizzly bear, the black-footed ferret and the saber tooth jackalope. Unwritten folklore was filled with stories of the viscous and unusual characteristics of the giant saber tooth jackalope. These included their attacks on windmills, barbwire fences and wagon trains. The fact that most sightings occurred near and around taverns isn't unusual since almost all Western folklore originated in and around taverns.

Although the saber tooth jackalope was known to be a carnivore with nocturnal hunting habits, it and its smaller cousin (the pronghorn jackalope) were famous for their imitation of human voices and ability to carry a tune. Many cowboys reported that as they sang to their herds, they would often hear the jackalopes joining in perfect harmony. The voice of the saber tooth jackalope was easily distinguished from the small pronghorn as his voice was slightly deeper, contained the hint of a French accent (probably acquired from early trappers) and had a pronounced lisp. Singing together, the larger and smaller jackalopes sounded much like Roy Rogers and Dale Evans.

## *Legal Notice & Regulations*

W.S. 43-1-113 Permits a dually licensed, non-resident to hunt only "pedigres Leapusalopus Ineptus," known as the pronghorn jackalope. It can readily be identified as having the size, shape and color of a jackrabbit with horns similar to the pronghorn antelope or smaller deer. Non-residents are warned and forbidden by law to hunt the larger and endangered "Leapusalopus Incisorous Maximus," the saber tooth jackalope. They are distinguished by being much larger (100-150 lbs.), having foot-long fangs, and are extremely viscous. The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission requires that jackalopes be hunted between sun-up and sun-down on June 31 of each year. Hunters and trappers are forbidden from using intoxicating beverages to bait the animals. Successful hunters or trappers should report their kill to any tavern in Converse County, Wyoming, where the catch will be cataloged and certified. They will be then be debriefed and sobered up.

VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE LAWS, RULES, OR REGULATIONS COVERING the taking of jackalopes will be punishable by a fine of no less than THIRTEEN DOLLARS (\$13.00), or a sentence of not more than 90 days as a ward of the Douglas Area Chamber of Commerce.